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Educational Advising in New Zealand

The two EducationUSA advising centres listed above are the only dedicated source of information on study in the US in New Zealand. The primary centre in Wellington provides comprehensive services free of charge, while the Auckland centre provides limited services.

<u>Open Doors Statistics</u>	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
New Zealand Students in US	788	797	746	855
US Students in New Zealand	2657	2542	2718	not yet available

New Zealand Education System

Secondary School Education

Secondary education covers Years 9 to 13, (during which students are generally aged 13 to 17).

Most schools are English language medium, but some schools teach in the Maori medium and base their education on Maori culture and values.

The National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) was progressively implemented between 2002 and 2004, as the national senior secondary school qualification. Students are able to achieve the NCEA at three levels via a wide range of courses and subjects, both within and beyond the traditional school. For most students, the three levels of the NCEA correspond to the final three years of secondary schooling (Years 11-13). To gain an NCEA the student must achieve 80 credits on the National Qualifications Framework, 60 at the level of the certificate and 20 others.

In addition, a New Zealand Scholarship qualification has been developed and was offered for the first time in 2004. This qualification challenges and recognises high performing students, for the most part, from Year 13.

International Comparability of School Qualifications

NCEA Level 1 is comparable overall to the following qualifications:

- the British General Certificate of Secondary Education;
- Canadian or United States Grade 10; and
- Year 10 awards in a number of Australian states - School Certificate, Junior Certificate and Achievement Certificate.

NCEA Level 3, and the New Zealand Scholarship qualification, is comparable overall to the following qualifications:

- the British A level; and
- Year 12 awards in a number of Australian States, for example the New South Wales Higher School Certificate.

Entrance to degree study at tertiary education institutions is achieved by gaining a minimum of 42 credits at level 3 or higher of the National Qualifications Framework, and fulfilling specific subject and level requirements, and literacy and

numeracy requirements. International qualifications considered equivalent are also accepted. International students are also required to fulfill English language requirements for enrolment at tertiary institutions.

Information about the NCEA and New Zealand Scholarship can be found on www.ncea.govt.nz.

Tertiary Education

The term 'tertiary education' in New Zealand is used to describe all aspects of post-school education and training. There are currently 36 public tertiary education institutions, including eight universities, twenty-one institutes of technology and polytechnics, four colleges of education, three wananga (Maori tertiary education institutions). There are also 46 industry training organisations, and approximately 895 private training establishments, which include private English language schools, registered by the New Zealand Qualifications Authority.

Technical and Vocational Education is mainly offered at institutes of technology, polytechnics, private training establishments and in the workplace. However, some programmes are also available in secondary schools, wananga, government training establishments, one college of education and several universities.

Higher, or Degree-level Education is mainly offered at universities, but some degree programmes are also available at institutes of technology, polytechnics, wananga and colleges of education, and at some private training establishments.

Teacher Education is not only offered at specialist colleges of education, but also at some universities, institutes of technology, polytechnics, wananga and private training establishments.

Industry Training Organisations are bodies that represent particular industry sectors. Industry Training Organisations develop and maintain national unit (skill) standards and qualifications for their sector. They also facilitate on-job training and contract training providers to offer off-job training and courses.

International Comparability of Tertiary Qualifications

Bachelor's degrees from New Zealand tertiary education providers are comparable overall to:

- British Bachelor's (Ordinary) degrees
- Australian Bachelor's degrees

New Zealand Bachelor's degrees are recognised for enrolment in postgraduate programmes at universities throughout the world, subject to the normal grade and subject-specialisation requirements.

Quality Assurance for the Pastoral Care of International Students

The Ministry of Education operates a Code of Practice for the Pastoral Care of International Students. The Code (introduced in October 2002) provides a framework for delivery of pastoral care, accommodation and provision of information by education providers and their agents to international students. It sets out minimum standards of advice and care that are expected of education providers. All education providers that enrol international students must be signatories to the Code. The Code can be viewed on the Ministry's website www.minedu.govt.nz/goto/international.

Testing:

The SAT is offered six times a year at six locations around New Zealand. The ACT is offered four times a year in two locations. The TOEFL iBT is offered weekly at designated test centers in three New Zealand cities. The GMAT is offered at computer-based test centers at two locations in New Zealand. The paper-based GRE is offered twice each year at multiple locations in February and October.